THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): As per audited accounts, the demurrage income of different major ports during the years 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86 is as follows:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of Port	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86
Bombay	3491·63	5553·82	6219·24
Calcutta	2868·00	4552·00	2502·00
Cochin	80·17	109·54	82·05
Kandla	14·16	36·83	26·56
Madras	418·41	876·82	1019·57
Mormugao	Nil	0·19	0·23
New Mangalore	1·41	3·67	9·65
Paradip	0·24	0·05	0·70
Tuticorin	11·90	8·58	4·68
Visakhapatnam	462·52	597·76	450·40

609. [*Transferred to the 30th April, 1987*]

Adverse effect on Small Newspapers due to postal hike

610. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the hike in postal and telecommunication rates has adversely affected small and medium newspapers; and

(b) if so, the steps Government are taking to provide relief to such papers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) *POSTAL TARIFF*: The tariff structure of various postal services is adjusted from time to time keeping in view the cost of postal operation. Even after increase of the rate of postage on registered newspapers from 5 paise to 15 paise, the annual deficit in running the registered newspapers service is Rs. 16.43 crores approximately. Thus the service subsidised to this extent.

Telecom-Tariff: While the tariff for telegraph circuits provided to general public has been revised to Rs. 125 per Km. per annum for 50 bauds and Rs. 200 per Km. per annum for 75 bauds the rates for the Press including newspapers and news agencies are fixed at only 50 per cent of these charges. As the cost of operation and maintenance has gone up substantially and the increase in tariff has been kept to the minimum, further concession is not possible.

Outbreak of Measles in Gujarat

611. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether measles have claimed the lives of ninety children in Rajkot